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MERTON MUSIC

L E K E U

String Quartet in Six Movements

VIOLIN I

Merton Music
8 Wilton Grove
London SW19 3QX England
Phone/Fax: 020 8540 2708 (+44 20 8540 2708)
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4802

A.

Allegretto Quasi Allegro

pp espress.

pp

p

pp

f

f

f

mp dim pp

p

cresc.

f

dim.

pizz.

pp

arco

pp

56

62

pp

67

73

cresc.

mp

78

p

p

1

1

Vle

poco rall.

a tempo

84

pp

sempre pp

90

pp

97

2e Vons

V.S.

103 p 1 pp

109 p espress cresc.

116 f

120 f f

126 p

131 sempre p pp

136 p pp

141 pp

146 mf

151 f mf

156 f f

227

231 cresc.

235

239 p non legato

242

245

249 ff ff fff Fin

181 3

184 ff cresc..

187 ff

190 ♩=♩ 2/4 f

195

200 f

204

208

212 ♩=♩ pp

216 1 2 2ª Voz

222 p espress ed appassionato

160 5 f

166 p espres

172 3 2ª Voz

178 pp leggiero ff pp

183 p pp p

189 3 3 3 p pp

195 1 2 pp p

203 1 3 3 f

208 1 ff

210 *f* *mf* *meno f*

217 *p espress:*

223

229 *p*

235 *p*

242 *p* *cresc*

247 *f* *f*

252 *f non legato* *rall.*

256 *a Tempo* *pp*

262 *p espress:*

268

144 *mf ben marcato*

148 *f*

152 *p.*

156 *pp*

160 *molto appassionato* *cresc . . .*

164 *f* *ff* *mf appassionato*

168

172 *cresc . poco a poco*

177

98 *f*

102 cresc.. *ff* *pp*

106 *pp* sempre leggierissimo

110

114 *pp*

120 *p*

124 *mf espress.*

128

132 cresc.. *f*

136 *mf espress*

140

275 *pp* alto

281 Come 1° *fff*

282 *pp*

293 *pp*

298 *p*

305 *pp* *p*

311 *mf*

316 *f*

321 pizz

325 Arco *mf*

329 Vlc

pizz

arco

pp

pp

334

340

pp ben spiccato

344

349

p

354

360

col più grand' delicat

spiccato

364

pp

369

374

p

379

56

f molto appassionato

61

f non legato

65

69

f

cresc..

73

1ma

2da

ff

79

p

p espress.

84

appassionato

cresc...

89

f

f molto appassionato

93

V.S.

Finale

Allegro assai
e appassionato

ff con fuoco

2e Voix

f

pp

appassionato

p espress:

cresc . .

1.

2.

ppp

pp

ppp

pppp

Les instrumentistes doivent veiller dans tout ce morceau, à garder la plus constante, la plus uniforme mesure alliée à la plus parfaite tranquillité d'archet. L'égalité de son qui en résultera pourra seule exciter dans l'âme de l'auditeur la paix profonde que doit dicter cette mélodie.

Adagio sostenuto

Vcelle

p molto espress.

And.te mod.to

f. p.

34 1 Vlle

38 1er Von

p molto dolce e simplice

42

45

49 2e Von

55

pp

57

pp

59

pp

61

pp

p sempre

64

67

34

dim..

38 1

p

43

pp

48

ppp

88 2º Vons

92 1ers Vons

95 8ª loco

Poco Allegro e molto scherzoso

alto

7 1. 2.

p

12

16 mp pp

20 pizz: p

25 arco p p

30 mf

71 pp

74 pp

Tempo 1º Adagio Sostenuto

77 pp molto legato

79

81

83

85

87

89

91 1 Andte modto Vlle

74
3 3 3 3
pp leggierissimo

97
3 3 3 3 3

99
3 3 3 3 3 3

101
3 3 3 3 3 3
pp

103
pp
Tempo 1°
12 8
p molto espress.

106
pp

109

113
G
sempre p

117
7

126
Vlle

131
1er von
ppp

39
pp

43
pp
p espress:

48
p

52
5
2e voix

61
1

65
8a
pp espress:
loco

69
8a
loco

72
p espress: cantabile

75

78
3
5

81
5

4. Romance (Ständchen)

Andte molto mod.to quasi Andte

2di voii

molto espress:

8a

espress: molto

2. von

p cantante espress:

p espress: cantabile

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3. Capriccio

Poco All.o Questo pezzo si deve tuttare col più grand delicatezza

pp con Sordini

5 sempre pp

9 segue

13

17

21

25

29 Coda

p sempre

33

38

pp

42

47 Capriccio da Capo al segno poi Coda

Coda 52

pp

55

58

61

ppp ppp

65 Solo

pppp

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L E K E U

String Quartet in Six Movements

VIOLIN II

Merton Music
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London SW19 3QX England
Phone/Fax: 020 8540 2708 (+44 20 8540 2708)
e-mail: mertonmusic@argonet.co.uk

4802

Allegretto quasi Allegro

pp

pp espres:

pp

pp

p

p espress:

cresc. . . .

mf

dim..

pp

p

f

dim..

pizz.

pp

arco

pp

60

pp

66

72

cresc.

78

Vle

poco rall.

a tempo

pp

86

pp

98

pp

103

108

ff

A

110 pp p

115 Cresc.. f

120 f

124 Dim.. p 2

130 pp leggiero pp

135 1 pp p

140 pp ppp p espress.

145 mf

150

156 mf f

159 f f

210 3 3

214 1 pp

218 2

223 pp

227 3

231 3 Cresc. f

236 appassionato f

241 f non legato

246 1 f ff

258 ff fff Fin

179

183

f Cresc - - - -

186

ff

187

♩= ♩

f

193

198

202 1ère Voix

206

165

171

pp

177

182

pp

188

p *pp*

193

198

204

mf

209

p

215

220

228 1er Violon
p
233 pizz arco
p
239 pizz
245 arco
p f f
250 f non legato
257 rall. a tempo pp
260 pp
267 dim..
273
278 1°violon pp pp
286 1°violon ppp

136 mf espress:
140
144 mf ben marcato
148 f
153 pp
157 pp
161 cresc..
165 ff mp
169
174 V.S.

86
p mf

90
f mf

94
f appassionato

98
f sempre

102
cresc.. ff pp

109
pp

114
p

118

122
1
p

127

131
3

293
pp

298
pp

305
3

310
cresc.
8va 3

316
mf f

321
pizz
mf
arco
mp

326
1
Vle

331
pizz
pp
arco
pp

337
pp

342

348
1

350

355

360

p

366

pp

371

377

p *ppp*

382

pp

384

pp *pp*

388

ppp *pppp*

51

sempre pp

55

f

60

64

f *con fuoco* *f*

68

f *f*

72

75

1ma

75

2da

ff *pp*

79

p

84

ff

6. Final

Allegro assai
e appassionato

ff con fuoco

Vlle

p espress:

mf

pp

pp

pp

pp

2

Les instrumentistes doivent veiller dans tout ce morceau, à garder la plus constante, la plus uniforme mesure alliée à la plus parfaite tranquillité d'archet. L'égalité de son qui en résultera pourra seule exciter dans l'âme de l'auditeur la paix profonde qui a dicté cette mélodie.

Adagio sostenuto

Con intimissimo sentimento

pp sempre molto legato

Sempre pp

Sempre Legato

V.S.

15

17

19

21

23

25

27

30 (ossia)

pp

33

sempre pp

36

39

80

mf

34

dim..

pp

37

pp

41

p

46

pp

50

ppp

85 pizz 1 arco pp

89 3 pizz

95 arco

5

Poco Allegro e molto scherzoso pizz pp

4 arco pp

9 arco pp

13 mp

17 pp

21 p

25 p

43

48 D

53 espress p

57

61 pp

63

65

67

69 pp pp

72

Tempo 1° Adagio sost°

76 pp 1ers vons

78
8
88
92
Anda mod
pp
96
100
103
Tempo 1º
12/8
pp
106
108
110
112
114

40
43
pp
pp
47
p espress
pp
51
2
55
pizz
1
arco
59
3
pizz
65
arco
p
69
73
1
pp
77
pp
1
pp
81
2
ff

4. Romance (Stanchieu)

Andante molto moderato quasi andante

2

pizz

pp

5

1

arco

p molto espress.

9

3

pizz

arco

p

15

non troppo martellato

pp

19

p

22

p

25

28

pp

3

34

p espress.

37

pp

pp

116

118

sempre legato

pp molto espress.

120

122

124

126

128

130

132

ppp

3 Capriccio

Questo pezzo si deve battere col più grand delicatezza

Poco All.

pp con Sordini

segue

→ Coda

pp sempre

Capriccio da Capo

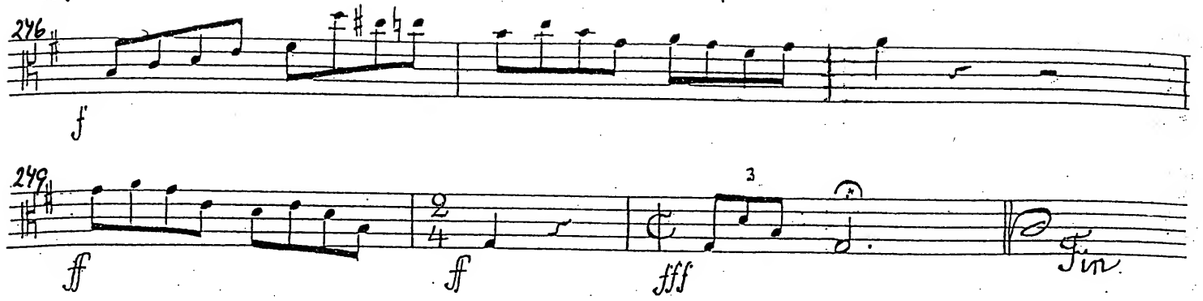
dal Segno poi Coda

Coda

pp

ppp

ppp



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LEKEU

String Quartet in Six Movements

VIOLA

Merton Music
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Phone/Fax: 020 8540 2708 (+44 20 8540 2708)
4802 e-mail: mertonmusic@argonet.co.uk

Allegretto quasi Allegro

pp

pp espress:

pp

Vn. I

mf

f

Dim:

f

p

f

p appassionato

f

Cresc..

mf

f

f con fuoco

ff

155 pp

160 pp Cresc.

164

167 p sempre molto marcato

171 cresc. poco a poco

175

179

183 f cresc.

187 ff f

191

195 3

51 pizz. pp 5 1° Vln 3

60 arco pp

66 1

71 Vlle p espress.

76 f Vlle poco rall a tempo

84 pp

91 Vn.2. pp

97 ff pp

102

107 1 pp

112 1 ff

114 *f*

119 *p*

121

123 *mf* *p*

127

132

120

124 *pp*

128

132 *f*

136 *f sempre ed espress.*

137

143 *pp*

149 *f*

153 *f* *f*

157 *f*

161

146

144

148 *f* *f*

152

77
pp

81
p

85
p
mf

89
f

92
mf

96
f

100
cresc - -
ff

104
p dolcissimo

108

112

116

167

174
p

179

185
pp
pp

190
p

196
8va

203 2°voce
mf

208
non legato

212

215

220

p

225

230

1

pizz

arco

p

235

pizz

240 arco

pizz

p

245

1

arco

p

f

1

250

non legato

f

254

Vlle

rall

a tempo

pp

257

265

Sempre Dolce

p

55

cresc.

f

59

63

f

f con fuoco

66

69

f

cresc.

72

1ma

75

2a

1

ff

6. Final

Vlle assai
ed appassionato

ff p

11

2de Voix

13 6 2de Voix

23 f

27

31

35 p appassionato

39

43

47 pp

51

271 Dim:

276 perdendosi senza ritard

281 Come 1o ppp pp

287 ppp pp molto legato

293

298 p

303

308 1er Voix mp mf

314

319 Vn. I

322 *f* *dim..*

326 *mp* *dim* 1

331 *pizz* *pp* 1er Violon *arco* *pp* Vn. I

338 *pp*

344 2

351 1 1

357 *pp* *p*

363 *pp*

369 *p molto espres:* *pp*

374 2 1er Von. 2e Von. *pp*

382 *pp*

389 2 Vlle *pp* 1 *ppp* 1 *ppp*

5.

Poco Allegro
e molto scherzoso
p

4 *pp*

10

15 *mp*

20 *pp*

25 1 *pp*

32 *mf*

37 1 *p*

43 1 1 *pp*

49

60 pizz

64 arco

68

72 pp

76 p pp

80 2

85 2 pp

90 pizz ppp

94 arco

This page is left blank to facilitate page turning.

2.

Les instrumentistes doivent veiller dans tout ce morceau, à garder la plus exacte, la plus uniforme mesure à la plus parfaite tranquillité d'archet. L'égalité de son qui en résultera pourra seule exciter dans l'âme de l'auditeur la passe profonde que a dicté cette mélodie.

Con intimissimo sentimento

Adagio Sostenuto 12/8

pp sempre molto legato

3

sempre pp

5

7

sempre legato

9

11

13

pp

15

17

35

pp pp

38

pp

41

pp

44

pp

47

p espress: cantabile

50

53

2

p

57

2

4 Romance (Stanchew)

Andante molto moderato
Quasi Andantino

2

p molto espress.

4

2

pizz

9

arco

p

13

pp molto espress.

16

19

22

p

p sempre

25

28

1

32

p espress: cantabile

19

21

23

25

pp

27

29

Andte moderato

ppp

pp

V.S.

31

p sempre molto dolce

35

39

43

47

51

p espress.

55

58

pp

62

64

66

39

43

1

47

1

61

Capriccio da Capo
dal segno poi Coda

Coda

53

pp

55

59

1

ppp

63

1

ppp

3. Capriccio

Questo pezzo si deve tuttare col più grand delicatezza

Poco Allegro

pp con Sordini

3

7

11

segue

15

19

23

27

31 Coda

pp sempre

35 1

68

70

pp

74

1° Tempo Adagio sost°

pp

pp molto legato

78

80

82

84

86

88

90 Andante mod^to

V.S.

pp

93

96

99

102

pp

pp

105 Tempo 1mo

pp molto legato

107

109

111

113

115

117

119

121

123

125

127

129

131

133

ppp

ppp

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(Prices current 2005)

MERTON MUSIC

LEKEU

String Quartet in Six Movements

VIOLONCELLO

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4802

Allegretto quasi Allegro

Vn.1

pizz

5 1 Vn.1 arco pp 1 pp

11 sempre pp

17 pp

22 1 a

27

33 mf

39 p

45 pizz arco mf

51 1 pizz pp Vn.1

214
pp
218
222
226
231
f
235
f espress: appassionato
239
f
242
f con fuoco
245
250
ff
fff
fin

59
arco
pp
65
71
p espresso
76
p
81
poco rall.
ben cantante e espress: molto
86
91
pp
97
pizz
pp
104
pizz
arco
pp
111
pp
cresc..
mf espress
118

122 pizz mf arco f 3 3 3 dim:

127 leggiero ff 1

132 pizz arco pp sempre

137

143 pp

149 f

154 f

158 f

162 1 Vn.I

168 pp leggiero

173 2 Vn I

195 3

199 3

202 ten voix

206

216 3 3

V.S.

157 *f* *pp*

155 *p molto espress*

159 *pp*

163 *Cresc..* *f*

167

171

175

179

183 *f* *cresc..*

187 *ff* *f*

191

179 *p espress.* *pp leggiero*

185 1 *pp* 1° Vln

191 *pp*

197 *ben spicato*

202 2 *f* *mf*

208 *mf*

214 1° Vln

216

221

226 pizz.

p

231

236 arco pizz

p

240 arco

245

249 non legato

f

253

rall. *a tempo*

257

p

262

121

p *f* espress.

125

130

134

f

138

142

146

V.S.

76
p espress.

80

84
appassionato
f

88
f
mf

92
mf

96

100
cresc..
ff.

104
p

108
pp

112

117

267
1ºVºn

272
p

278
3
Como 1º
Vn-1
pizz
pp

285
2
arco
ppp
1
pp

291

297
p
pp

302
1
3

307

312
mf
1
V.S

318 mf

323 1

329 p dim: più pp 1er Vln

335 cresc 1er Vln pp

341 1 pp ben spiccato 1 sempre pp 1

347 1 1 1 pp

353 1 1

359 1 pp

365 1 pp

370 p molto espres:

375 pp

43

46

50

54 @resc . . . f

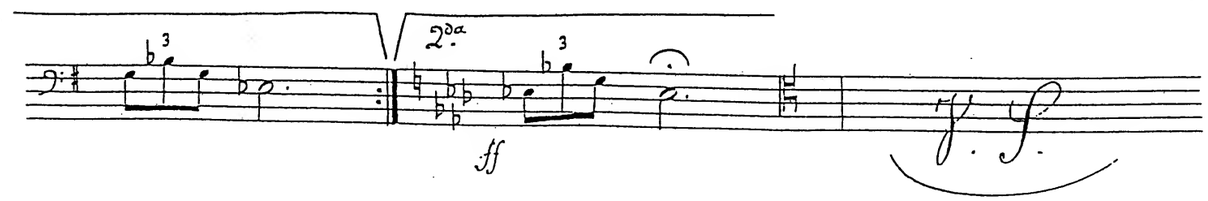
59 f appassionato

63 f f cantabile

66 1

70 f 3 Cresc.

74 1ma 2da ff



6. Final

Allegro assai
ed appassionato

ff con fuoco

Solo

p molto dolce e cantabile

pp

mf

pizz

pp

arco

pp

pp

ppp

2.

Les instrumentistes doivent veiller dans tout ce morceau, à garder la plus constante la plus uniforme mesure alliée à la plus parfaite tranquillité d'archet. L'égalité de son qui en résultera pourra seule éveiller dans l'âme de l'auditeur la paix profonde qui a dicté cette mélodie.

Adagio Sostenuto

ppp

3

6

9

ppp

12

15

18

21

24

pp

5.

Poco Allegro e molto Scherzoso

pizz

pp

4

9

arco

p

pizz

pp

15

arco

mp

20

3

pizz

p

23

arco

pp

3

mf

35

pizz

dim.

pp

pp

46

45

2

arco

pp

51

71 1.ma.

dd-

75

p

78

pp

81

pp

84 1

pizz

pp

88 1

arco

pp

92 1

95

27

29

ppp

Andante modto 1

31

espress

35

molto espress: e simplice

39

p espress:

43

46

49

alto

52

54 pp

57

60 pp pp

63

67

71

74 pp

Tempo 1° Adagio Sost°
77 pp

80

83

86

34

37

41

44 pp

47

50

53 Come 1°

56 pizz

60 arco

63

66

4. Romance (Standchen)

Andante molto Moderato
quasi Andante

p molto espress:

3 1

pizz

pp

7 1

Arco

11 1

p

15 non troppo martellato

pp

19

22

p *espress:* *p sempre*

25

28

31 espress: cantabile

p *pp*

89

92 Andante Moderato 1

p molto espress: *p*

97

sempre p e espress:

101 1

pp *pp*

105 Tempo 1°

109

113

117

121

126

131

ppp

3. Capriccio

Poco Allegro

Vn.1 Vn.2 Va.

6

8

p molto espress.

12

16

20

espress: sempre

p

24

27

30

Cap. Sordini

→ Coda

Dans le style des Chansons populaires

p pp

33

36

p

39

pp

42

pp

45

p

48

Capriccio da Capo
dal Segno poi Coda

52

Coda

pizz

pp Cap. Sordini

55

58

61 Arco solo

ppp pp

Guillaume Lekeu (1870-1894)

Born in Heusy near Verviers (Belgium), moved to Poitiers in 1879 and Paris 1888, died in February 1894 from typhoid fever. In 1889 Lekeu met César Franck, who recognized his musical genius, accepted him as a pupil and took him along to Bayreuth (Tristan, Parsifal, Meistersinger). These experiences had profound impact on L's development, but Beethoven's late string quartets remained his model for the perfection of musical creativity and expression. This affinity is obvious in the youthful audacity of a major work in this demanding genre, the quartet in six movements (1887). The Piano Trio (1890) was written on the encouragement of C. Franck. The Violin Sonata (1892, L's most well-known work) and the Piano Quartet (1893) were commissioned by the violinist Eugène Ysaÿe.

In his essay on French chamber music, Edward Lockspeiser (Debussy's biographer) describes Lekeu as "a high-minded idealist" with a particularly strong personality. "His remarkable correspondence and the considerable body of music he produced have left his admirers wondering how this composer, who was inspired chiefly by the late works of Beethoven, might have developed had his life not been cut short".

The original manuscript score of the quartet seems to be lost, but contemporary manuscript parts have survived in the safe of the conservatory in Verviers. When numbering the bars, I became aware of several writing errors of omission. The Spiegel Quartet, who had recently made an authoritative recording of several Lekeu chamber works, including this quartet, were approached for solutions to the problems. Professor Jan Sciffer of the Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles and member of the Spiegel Quartet kindly put at my disposal copies of the ensemble's working material and gave some detailed advice on solutions used in the recording. I wish to express my thanks for this support. Thanks also to M. Tony de Vuyst, Bruxelles, who found the material and provided a photocopy which is the basis for the present edition.

Chamber Music by Guillaume Lekeu

Méditation (Molto Adagio) for String Quartet (1887), CeBeDem, Brussels 1994
String Quartet in six movements (1887), Facsimile of MS parts with corrections, Merton Music. 2005)
Cello Sonata (1888), prepared for publication by Vincent d'Indy, Rouart et Lerolle 1921
Piano Trio (1891), Rouart et Lerolle 1908
Violin Sonata (1892), Rouart et Lerolle 1907
Piano Quartet (1893), prepared for publication by Vincent d'Indy 1896, Rouart et Lerolle 1909

Sources

Luc Verdebout: *Correspondance de Guillaume Lekeu* (Liège, P. Mardaga 1993)
Luc Verdebout: *Guillaume Lekeu* (Biographic essay, see http://www.musimem.com/lekeu.htm)
Mark Delaere: Notes for the CD *"Guillaume Lekeu: String Quartets, Piano Quartet"* recorded in December 2003 by the Spiegel String Quartet and Jan Michiels, Piano, MDG 644 1266-2
F-R Tranchefort: "Guillaume Lekeu" (article in *Guide de la musique de chambre*, ed. F-R Tranchefort, Paris, Fayard 1989)
E. Lockspeiser: French Chamber Music - Chausson and Lekeu (in A. Robertson (ed.): *Chamber Music*, Penguin Books 1957)

(Notes by S. Schwarz, Copenhagen, August 2005)

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